

Minnesota Members of Congress are working to ensure that state National Guard soldiers returning from Iraq receive their full education benefits as soon as possible.

Half of the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division's returning members were wrongly denied the benefits they deserve for their extended service in Iraq through an unexplained error. Army officials are working to resolve the mistake, but say they do not have the authority to fix the problem immediately. ([Click here](#) to learn more about the situation.)

Minnesota Members have:

- Sent a [letter to the Secretary of the Army](#) (PDF) and [received his personal commitment](#) to resolve the issue.
- [Convinced the Army to send a team of experts to Minnesota](#) to help affected soldiers get their full education benefits in time for the spring semester.
- Secured a [hearing on the situation](#) before the House Committee on Veterans Affairs on October 18, 2007 at 2:00 p.m.
- Sponsored two pieces of legislation ([H.R. 3882](#) and [H.R. 3741](#)) to correct the error.
- Sent a [letter to President Bush](#) (PDF) calling on him to fix the mistake through an Executive Order, if necessary.

Service members seeking assistance with this issue or other veterans benefits and reintegration concerns are encouraged to contact Rep. McCollum's St. Paul office:

Phone - (651) 224-9191

Fax - (651) 224-3056

[Click here to contact us online](#)

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